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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Ginger Gaines-Cirelli, Capitol Hill United Methodist Church, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, in whom we live, move and have our being, we give You thanks and praise for the gift of life, for each new day in which the sun rises and sets affording ever new opportunities to begin again, to love more faithfully, to serve more humbly.

The world in which we live is indeed full of beauty and wonder, but we know that throughout the world there is great suffering and strife. So we pray that the work undertaken by this servant community today will, in ways large and small, bring relief and release to the afflicted.

O God, may a spirit of friendship and reconciliation guide the words and actions of these faithful public servants. Let their discernment over the difficult issues of our day be wise and loving. Grant them strength to persevere in the ways that make for peace.

In all Your holy names we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SNYDER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REV. GINGER GAINES-CIRELLI

(Mr. SNYDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SNYDER. Madam Speaker, a couple of years ago, at a time when the House was in session through the week-end, a group of us lonely, forlorn Members during the Christmas season on a Sunday morning ended up in the pews of the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church to be greeted warmly by our guest chaplain today, Rev. Ginger Gaines-Cirelli, and her husband. It was the only time I've heard a sermon in which the phrase, during the Christmas season, "preggers by God" was used.

We were delighted by her sermon, delighted by her warmth, and she is here with us today. She is a graduate of Southwestern University of Georgetown, Texas, received her master of divinity from Yale Divinity School. She has done church work all of her professional life. Her previous head pastoring job was in Rockville, Maryland. And she has now, for 7 years, with her husband, been the head pastor of the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church. We are very fortunate today to have Rev. Ginger Gaines-Cirelli as our guest pastor.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

OVERRIDE PRESIDENTIAL VETO ON SCHIP

(Mr. KAGEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, tomorrow, this House will consider and answer the question, the most essential

question of our time, What kind of Nation are we and which direction shall we move? Shall we guarantee access to health care to our Nation's children, who need it most? Shall we send our children to the costly emergency room or to their family physicians' offices to receive the care they so desperately require?

Whose side are you on? Failing to care for our Nation's children is morally unacceptable. This is the view of the March of Dimes; this is the view of Easter Seals, the faith communities throughout the country, and countless medical organizations across the land.

Tomorrow, I have the honor of representing the hopes and dreams and lives of 11 million children. Join us in overriding the Presidential veto. It's the right thing to do. And let's work together across the aisle to build a better future for all of us.

BURMA

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I'm somewhat puzzled over an event held on Monday this week. The Government of Russia, the Government of China, and a U.N. agency gathered for a conference entitled "Exploring Cooperative Approaches to Security in Space." I find this fascinating, "Cooperative Approaches to Security in Space"; yet China, with Russia and India's help, is almost single-handedly propping up the brutal dictatorship of Burma.

This is a brutal dictatorship that uses ethnic minorities as human land mine sweepers, has destroyed 3,000 villages and has the highest number of child soldiers in the world.

Perhaps China, Russia, and the U.N. should help bring democracy to Burma, which would bring security and stability to that country, before trying to

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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